



NC E-Procurement @ Your Service

iHub Upgrade

Local Education Authorities Update – ISIS 5.0 Users

February 4, 2014

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iHub Upgrade Overview

The North Carolina E-Procurement Integration Hub (iHub) application is a suite of tools and applications used to implement the E-Procurement Lite (E-P Lite) service that enables third-party entities, including NC community colleges and local education authorities (LEAs) to interface and leverage the Ariba Buyer application for requisitioning and purchasing.

- Solutions will leverage existing hardware that is upgraded with more capacity and will leverage new software.
- The hardware will include Dell servers running the Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) operating system upgraded with new CPUs and RAM.
- Updated software includes a Red Hat JBoss Middleware platform (an open source enterprise service bus technology).

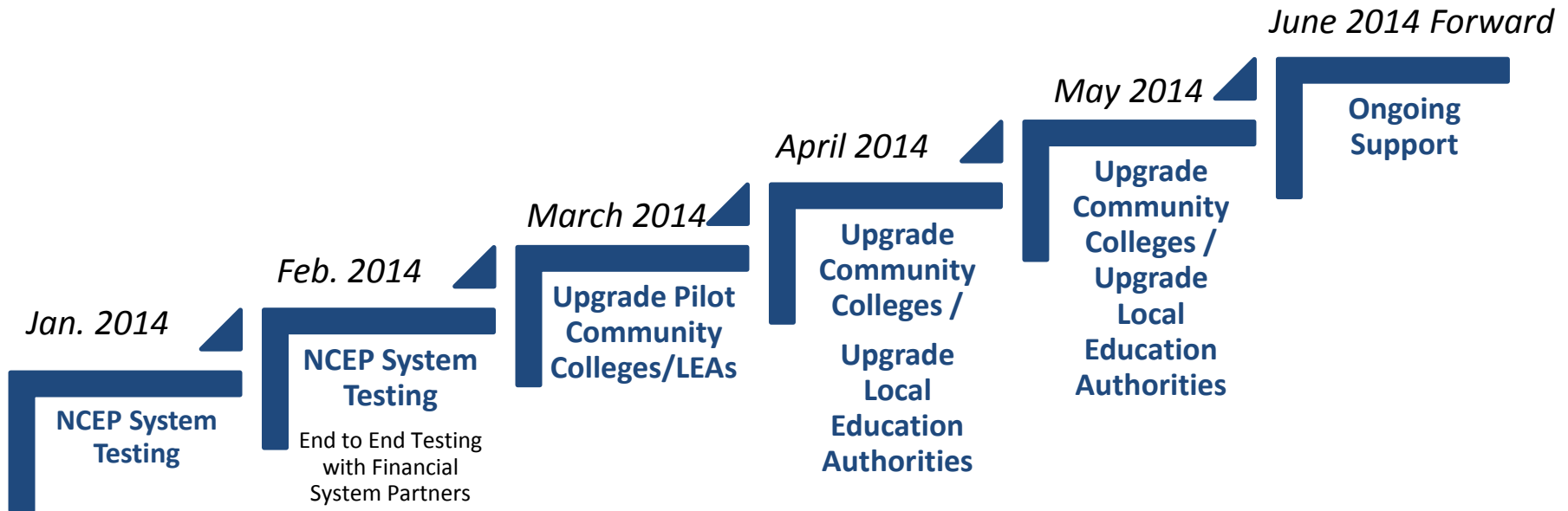
The NC E-Procurement iHub Upgrade will not include changes to the Ariba Buyer or eQuote system components that users access directly. The upgrade will enable improved administration of the interfaces with E-P Lite Entities.

- Requisition, Vendor, Purchase Order, and Invoice **message formats are not changing**; current interface requirements will remain the same
- Enhancements include:
 - A more robust monitoring system
 - An updated user interface to the administration system
 - Better research and recovery mechanisms for messaging incidents, enabling less dependency on contacts at your entity.
 - Standardization and enhancement to ease deployment for new or patched integration clients.



Testing / Deployment Timeline

The deployment to E-P Lite entities will occur primarily in April and May 2014, with pilots implementing in March. Specific dates for your entity will be available in late February.



Each LEA will be required to install a new Entity IC at your location, on a machine of your choice

- Some LEAs may need to use different hardware to meet the minimum Entity IC System Requirements:
 - Basic System Requirements
 - Memory: 1 GB
 - Disk Space: 300 MB
 - Supported Operating Systems with related Java Runtime Environment version(s):
 - Windows 7 (with JRE 1.7 or greater)
 - Windows Server 2012 (with JRE 1.7 or greater)
 - Oracle Solaris 9 (with JRE 1.6x)
 - Oracle Solaris 10 (with JRE 1.7x)
- NC E-Procurement team surveyed E-P Lite entities in January on their ability to meet requirements and will follow up with any that indicated they would have issues with meeting the requirements.
- Please [respond to the iHub upgrade survey](#) if you have not already done so. Only one response per LEA is needed.



NC E-Procurement Team Support

NCEP project team members will provide installation instructions to each LEA and be available for one-on-one phone support

- iHub Upgrade survey also requested a **technical contact** for your entity
 - Technical contact should have administrative rights on the entity client computer
 - May be a member of your entity's IT department
- Each entity will be assigned a deployment week in April or May and a **deployment liaison** on the NC E-Procurement team to work one-on-one with the technical contact as needed
- NC E-Procurement team will distribute a **Readiness Checklist** covering the steps your entity needs to take
- Installation is a short process that is expected to take less than an hour
 - **Email instructions** will be sent to the technical contact with a unique code and a link to a download site
- End users will likely not be aware of the change; it is not expected to have an impact on them



Next Steps

NCEP project will distribute Readiness Checklists in February with proposed deployment dates for your entity.

What you can do now to prepare for the upgrade:

- Respond to the [iHub Upgrade Survey](#) if you have not already done so
 - Designate a technical contact for the iHub upgrade
 - Confirm your entity's ability to meet the Entity IC system requirements or note any constraints
- Procure hardware for **Entity IC**, if needed
- If you would like to be a pilot LEA, please let us know via the NC E-Procurement Help Desk (888-211-7440, option 1, or ephelpdesk@its.nc.gov).



The NC E-Procurement Help Desk is available to answer additional questions. Contact 888-211-7440, option 1, or ephelpdesk@its.nc.gov